## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219<br>January 26, 2004   |
| CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING  I hereby certify that this correspondence and any document referred to as enclosed herewith are being deposited with the United States Postal Service in an envelope as United States Express Mail addressed to, Commissioner for Patents. P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  EL903357958US  Mailing Laber 10.  Henry E. Bartony, Jr., Registration No 34, 772  January 26, 2004 |
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## EXPRESS MAIL LABEL NO. EL903357958US

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In compliance with Applicant's duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants submit the attached Form PTO/SB/08a listing publications for consideration by the Examiner. Kindly, make these publications of record in the file of the application.

## STATEMENT OF RELEVANCY

The relevance of the publications listed on attached Form PTO/SB/08a is apparent from their disclosure.

The Examiner is respectively requested to initial a copy of the attached Form PTO/SB/08a to show consideration of the publications, and to return the initialed forms to the undersigned Attorney for Applicants.

Applicants note that although the cited references may be relevant to the examination of the above-referenced application, the filing of this Statement is not an admission that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, prior art or material to patentability as defined in § 1.56(b).

Applicants believe that no fee is required for this Information Disclosure Statement. However, The United States Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any necessary fee associated with this Information Disclosure Statement to Deposit Account No. 02-1065. A duplicate copy of this Information Disclosure Statement is transmitted herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

ROGER P. WOLF ET AL..

Henry E. Bartony, Jr., Esq.

Reg. No. 34,772

Bartony & Hare, LLP Law & Finance Building Suite 1801 429 Fourth Avenue Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219 412-338-8632 (telephone) 412-338-6611 (fax)

Attorney for Applicants

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inder the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number. Complete if Known Substitute for form 1449A/PTO **Application Number** TO BE ASSIGNED Filing Date INFORMATION DISCLOSURE JANUARY 26, 2004 First Named Inventor ROGER P. WOLF STATEMENT BY APPLICANT Art Unit TO BE ASSIGNED **Examiner Name** TO BE ASSIGNED (Use as many sheets as necessary)

Attorney Docket Number

|                       |                          |  | U. S. PATENT                   |  |   |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Examiner<br>Initials* | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Document Number  Number-Kind Code <sup>2 (f known)</sup> | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where<br>Relevant Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
|                       | A1                       | <sup>US-</sup> 3,746,343                                 | 12-14-1971                     | SHAPIRO  |   |
|                       | A2                       | <sup>US-</sup> 4,373,917                                 | 05-28-1981                     | JACKSON  |   |
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|                       | A4                       | <sup>us-</sup> 5,895,044                                 | 10-31-1996                     | BAHRAMIAN  | •   |
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|                       | A6                       | <sup>us-</sup> 4,560,354                                 | 10-11-1984                     | FOWLER   |   |
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|                       | A8                       | <sup>us-</sup> 5,683,251                                 | 03-01-1996                     | LOGAN  |   |
|                       | A9                       | <sup>us-</sup> 5,707,238                                 | 10-26-1995                     | BUSH   |   |
|                       | A10                      | <sup>US-</sup> 5,865,627                                 | 02-12-1997                     | FORESMAN   |   |
|                       | A11                      | <sup>US-</sup> 6,513,708 B2                              | 12-11-2000                     | EVANS  |   |
|                       |                          | US-  |                                |  |   |
|                       | •                        | US-  |                                |  |   |
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|                       |                          | US   |                                |  |   |

|                    | FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |   |   |  |   |                |  |  |
|--------------------|--------------------------|---|---|--|---|----------------|--|--|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite<br>No.1             | Foreign Patent Document  Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (# known) | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY          | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant Passages<br>or Relevant Figures Appear | Τ <sup>6</sup> |  |  |
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| Examiner  | <br>Date   |  |
| Signature | Considered |  |

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at <a href="https://www.uspto.gov">www.uspto.gov</a> or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.